

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended): An immunoassay of method for measuring PIVKA-II in a serum or plasma test sample, comprising the steps of:

adding to reagents to the serum or plasma test sample at least one reagent selected from the group consisting of thrombin and/or and an antibody reacting with antibodies which specifically bind to a human fibrin-like fibrin related substances substance, and measuring PIVKA-II in the serum or plasma test sample.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The immunoassay method according to claim 1, wherein the thrombin is a thrombin-containing animal serum and/or a purified thrombin are used as the thrombin.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The immunoassay method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein an the antibodies which specifically bind to the human fibrin related substance are selected from the group consisting of anti-fibrinogen antibody antibodies, and/or an anti-fibrin antibodies, anti-FDP antibodies, anti-fibrinopeptide A antibodies, and anti-fibrinopeptide B antibodies antibody are used as the antibody reacting with human fibrin-like related substances.

Claim 4 (canceled)

Claim 5 (new): An immunoassay method for measuring PIVKA-II in a serum or plasma test sample, comprising the steps of:

adding antibodies which specifically bind to a human fibrin related substance to an immunoassay reagent, wherein the immunoassay reagent comprises anti-PIVKA-II antibodies;

contacting the resultant immunoassay reagent comprising anti-PIVKA-II antibodies and antibodies which specifically bind to a human fibrin related substance to a serum or plasma test sample;

contacting the resultant sample with an immunoassay reagent comprising labeled antibodies; and

measuring PIVKA-II in the serum or plasma test sample.

Claim 6 (new): The immunoassay method according to claim 5, wherein the antibodies which specifically bind to a human fibrin related substance are selected from the group consisting of anti-fibrinogen antibodies, anti-fibrin antibodies, anti-FDP antibodies, anti-fibrinopeptide A antibodies, and anti-fibrinopeptide B antibodies.

Claim 7 (new): The immunoassay method according to claim 5, further comprises adding thrombin to the immunoassay reagent comprising labeled antibodies.

Claim 8 (new): The immunoassay method according to claim 7, wherein the thrombin is a thrombin-containing animal serum and/or a purified thrombin.

Claim 9 (new): An immunoassay method for measuring PIVKA-II in a serum or plasma test sample, comprising the steps of:

contacting an immunoassay reagent comprising anti-PIVKA-II antibodies with a serum or plasma test sample;

contacting the resultant sample with an immunoassay reagent comprising labeled antibodies and thrombin; and

measuring PIVKA-II in the serum or plasma test sample.

Claim 10 (new): The immunoassay method according to claim 9, wherein the thrombin

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is a thrombin-containing animal serum and/or a purified thrombin.